From
Thomas Alva Edison
Menlo Park (N.J.)

to

Conrad W. Cooke

November 10 1879.

DSI

Saratoga N Y Sept 2. 1879

The following paper, by T. A. Edison was read before the the association today. "On the Phenomena of Heating metal *in vacuo* by Means of an Electric Current". detailing some experiments on the subject of Electric light:

In the course of my experiments on electric lighting I have developed some striking phenomena arising from the heating of metals by flames and by the electric current, especially wires of platinum and platinum alloyed with iridium. These experiments are still in progress.

The first fact observed was that platinum lost weight when heated in a flame of hydrogen; that the metal colored the flame green, and that these two results continued until the whole of the platinum in contact with the flame had disappeared. A platinum wire $\frac{4}{1000}$ of an inch in diameter and weighing 306 milligrammes was bunched together and suspended in a hydrogen flame. It lost weight at the rate of a fraction less than one milligramme per hour as long as it was suspended in the flame. When a platinum wire is stretched between two clamping posts and arranged so as to pass through a hydrogen flame, it is colored a light green, but when the temperature of the wire is raised above that of the flame by passing a current throught it, the flame is colored a deep

ISD

green. To ascertain the diminution in the waaght of a platinum wire when heated by the electric current, I placed between two clamping posts a wire five thousandths of an inch in diameter and weighing 266 Milligrammes. This wire after it was brought to incandescence for 20 minutes by the current lost one milligramme. The same wire was then raised to incandescence; for 20 minutes it gave a loss of 3 milligrammes. Afterwards it was kept incandescent for one hour and ten minutes at which time it weighed 258 Milligrammes, a total loss of 8 milligrammes

Another wire, weighing 343 Milligrammes was kept moderately incandescent for nine consecutive hours, after which it weighed 301 milligrammes showing a total loss of 42 milligrammes.

A platinum wire $\frac{20}{1000}$ of an inch in Diameter was wound in the form of a spiral $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch in length. The two ends of the spiral were secured to the clamping posts, and the whole apparatus was covered with a glass shade 2 1/2 inches in diameter and 3 inches high. Upon bringing the spiral to incandescence for 20 minutes that part of the globe in line with the sides of the spiral became slightly darkened; in five hours the deposit became so thick that the incandescent spiral could not be seen through the deposit. This film which was most perfect, consisted of platinum and I have no doubt that large plates

ISO

of glass might be coated economically by placing them on each side of a large sheet of platinum, kept incandescent by the electric current. This loss in wright, together with the deposit on the glass presented a very serious obstacle to the use of metallic wires for giving light by incandescence, but this was easily surmounted after the cause was ascertained. I coated the wire forming the spiral with the oxide of magnesium by dusting upon it finely powdered acetate of magnesium. While incandescent the salt was decomposed by the heat, and there remained a strongly adherent coating of the oxide.

This spiral so coated was covered with a glass shade, and brought to incandescence for several minutes; but instead of a deposit of platinum upon the glass, there was a deposit of the oxide of magnesia. From this and other experiments I became convinced that this effect was due to the washing action of the air upon the spiral; that the loss of wright in, and the coloration of the hydrogen flame was also due to the wearing away of the surface of the platina, by the attrition produced by the impact of the stream of gasses upon the highly incandescent surface, and not to volatilization, as commonly understood; and I venture to say, although I have not tried the experiment, that metallic sodium cannot be volatilized in high vacua by the heat derived from incandescent platinum; any effect that may be

DSI

produced will be due to the washing action of the residual air.

After the experiment last described I placed a spiral of platinum in the receiver of a common air pump and arranged it in such a manner that the current could pass through it while the receiver was exhausted. At a pressure of two millimetres the spiral was kept at incandescence for two hours before the deposit was sufficient to become visible. In another experiment at a higher exhaustion it required 5 hours before a deposit became visible. In a sealed glass bulb exhausted by a Sprengel pump to a point where a quarter of an inch spark from an induction coil would not pass between points one millimetre apart was placed a spiral the connecting wires passing through the glass. This spiral has been kept at the most dazzling incandescence for hours without ~~showing~~ the slightest deposit becoming visible.

I will now describe other and far more important phenomena observed in my experiments. If a short length of platinum wire $\frac{1}{1000}$ of an inch in diameter be held in the flame of a Bunsen burner at some part it will fuse and a piece of the wire will be bent at an angle by the action of the globule of melted platinum; in some cases there are several globules formed simultaneously and the wire assumes a zigzag shape. With a wire $\frac{4}{1000}$ of an inch in diameter this effect does not take place

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as the temperature cannot be raised to equal that of the smaller wire, owing to the increased radiating surface and mass. After heating if the wire be examined under a microscope, that part of the surface which has been incandescent will be found covered with innumerable cracks. If the wire be placed between clamping posts and heated to incandescence for 20 minutes by the passage of an Electric Current the cracks will be so enlarged as to be seen with the naked Eye. The wire, under the microscope presents a shrunken appearance, and is full of deep cracks. If the current is continued several hours, these effects will so increase that the wire will fall to pieces. This disintegration has been noticed in platina long subjected to the action of a flame by Prof John W Draper. The failure of the process of lighting invented by the French Chemist Jeasie du Motay who raised sheets of platinum to incandescence by introducing them into a hydrogen flame was due to the rapid disintegration of the metal.

I have ascertained the cause of this phenomenon, and have succeeded in eliminating that which produces it and in doing so have produced a metal in a state hitherto unknown, and which is absolutely stable at a temperature where nearly all substances melt or are consumed - a metal which, originally soft and pliable, becomes as homogeneous as glass and

DSI

as rigid as steel. When wound in the form of a spiral it is as springy and elastic when at the most dazzling incandescence as when cold, and cannot be annealed by any process now commonly known for the cause of the shrinking and cracking of the wire is due entirely to the expansion of the air in the mechanical and physical pores of the platinum and the contraction upon the escape of the air. Platinum as sold in Commerce may be compared to sandstone, in which the whole is made of a great number of particles with many air spaces — the sandstone upon melting becomes homogeneous ~~[illegible]~~ and no air-spaces exist. With platinum or any metal the air spaces may be eliminated and the metal made homogeneous by a very simple process — this process I will now describe. I had made a large number of platinum spirals all of the same size and from the same quality of wire; each spiral presented to the air a radiating surface of $\frac{3}{16}$ of an inch; five of these were brought to by the electric current up to the melting point; the light was then measured by the photometer, and the average light was equal to 4 standard candles for each spiral just at the melting point. One of the same kind of spirals was placed

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in the receiver of an air pump, and the air exhausted to two millimetres; a weak current was then passed through the wire, to slightly warm it for the purpose of assisting the passage of the air from the pores of the metal into the vacuum. The temperature of the wire was gradually augmented at intervals of 10 minutes until it became red. The object of slowly increasing the temperature was to allow the air to pass out gradually and not explosively.

Afterward the current was increased at intervals of 15 minutes. Before each increase in the current, the wire was allowed to cool, and the contraction and expansion at these high temperatures caused the wire to weld together at the point previously containing air.

In one hour & 40 minutes this spiral had reached such a temperature without melting that it was giving a light of 25 standard candles whereas it would undoubtedly have melted before it gave a light of 5 candles had it not been put through the above process. Several more spirals were afterward tried with the same result. One spiral, which had been brought to these high temperatures more slowly gave a light equal to 30 standard candles. In the open air this spiral gave nearly the same light although it required more current to keep it at

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the same temperature. Upon examination of these spirals which had passed through the annealing process by the aid of a microscope no cracks were visible. The wire had become as white as silver, and had a polish which could not be given it by any other means. The wire had a less diameter than before treatment, and it was exceedingly difficult to melt in the oxyhydrogen flame, as compared with untreated platinum. It was found that it was as hard as the steel wire used in pianos, and that it could not be annealed in any temperature.

My experiments with many metals treated by this process have proved to my satisfaction, and I have no hesitation in stating, that what is known as annealing of metals to make them soft and pliable is nothing more than the cracking of the metal. In every case where a hard drawn wire had been annealed, a powerful microscope revealed myriads of cracks in the metal. Since the experiments of which I have just spoken I have by the aid of Sprengel mercury pumps produced higher exhaustion and have, by learning how to exclude the air from the wire and intermitting the current a great number of times succeeded in obtaining a light of Eight Standard Candles from a

spiral of wire with a total radiating surface of $\frac{1}{32}$ of an inch, or a surface about equal to a grain of buckwheat. With spirals of this small size, which have not passed through the process the average amount of light given out before melting is less than one standard candle. Thus I am enabled by the increased capacity of platinum to withstand high temperatures, to employ small radiating surfaces, and thus reduce the Energy required for candle light. I can now obtain 8 separate jets, each giving out an absolutely steady light, and each equal to 16 standard candles, or a total of 128 candles by the expenditure of 30 000 foot pounds of energy, or less than one horse power. As a matter of curiosity, I have made spirals of other metals, and excluded the air from them in the manner stated - Common iron wire may be made to give a light greater than that platinum not heated - The iron becomes as hard as steel and just as elastic. Nickel is far more refractory than iron. Steel wire used in pianos becomes decarbonized but remains hard and assumes the color of silver. Aluminium melts only at a white heat. In connexion it may be interesting to state that the melting

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points of many oxides is dependant upon the manner of applying the heat. For instance pure oxide of Zirconium does not fuse in the flame of the Oxyhydrogen blow-pipe while it melts like wax and Conducts electricity when on an incandescent platinum spiral which is at a far lower temperature. On the other hand oxide of aluminium Easily melts in the oxyhydrogen flame, while it only vitrifies on the platinum spiral.

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Form L. 1200-2-13-'86.

THOMAS A. EDISON,
No. 65 Fifth Avenue.

New York, ... 188

If you dont want to try it until you see me do it you can come to Laboratory where you see me do it = It is an elegant process

Edison.

RECEIVED
DATE
ADDR
ENTD
CREDIT

Pitting

We are running plant all night to develope defects and are fixing these defects in the day time, We are ready to test Mill 1 but cant do so until we get some ore in Oldbk house which we Expect to do this week We are delayed because or pneumatics had to have a Trolley attached + advice for Trolley to run by which delays no some We are certain the Crushing plant is good for all the ore that can be got to it = Now for Mill 1 = Quote with interest your Scranton Letter. Better not bring any very important people until we are putting in big ore which will be next week

Elmer

70 MORNINGSIDE DRIVE
NEW YORK

Marshall—
good, as soon as I can get
things started here I will
give you a lot of Dapers

March 13th, 1915.

Dear Mr. Edison:

I am sure you will be interested in the enclosed prospectus of the syndicate series.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs Edward Marshall

Mr. Thomas A. Edison,
Orange, N. J.

Note the free time I am
counting upon you for
an Expression & I am &
for Dolores today to
see your friend and admirer
Henry Ford.

166

Cable Address "Edison, New York"

From the Laboratory
of
Thomas A. Edison,
Orange, N.J.

November 11, 1920.

Mr. Perriton Maxwell, Editorial Director,
Leslie's, 225 Fifth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Maxwell:

When I was a newsboy I sold Leslie's on the train, and have read its columns and enjoyed the pictures for sixty years. On its Sixty-fifth Anniversary, I want to congratulate Leslie's on its continuous existence for sixty-five years, and I trust that the future will see no diminution of its vigor and interest.

Yours very truly,

Thos A Edison

DSI

LONDON,

.....18.....

Sir,

EDISON'S TELEPHONE.

.....*consent to the*.....*referred to in*

your letter of.....*being fixed on*.....

premises at.....

on the understanding that you will make good any damage or dilapidation which may be caused thereby to.....*property, and will remove the said*.....*after being requested to do so.*

Yours faithfully,

The Manager,

THE EDISON TELEPHONE COMPANY OF LONDON,
LIMITED,

11, *Queen Victoria Street, E.C.*

DSI

MANAGER & SECRETARY.
ARNOLD WHITE.

The Edison Telephone Company of London, Limited.
Mansion House Chambers,
Rooms N°113.
11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.

London ..... 18....

WAY-LEAVE.

I beg leave to request that you will be so good as to

allow .....

.....

for the purpose of running Telephone Wires.

No injury is likely to occur in consequence of this attachment being made; but in order to anticipate any objection you may entertain on this score, I undertake, on behalf of the Company, to make good whatever damage may be caused by the said ..... *to remove the* ..... *on being requested to do so, and furthermore to pay the sum of* ..... *shilling per annum.*

I shall feel obliged by your sending me a reply, in the enclosed envelope, at your early convenience.

I am,

Your obedient Servant.

Arnold White

Manager.

Cable Address "Edison, New York"

From the Laboratory
of
Thomas A. Edison,
Orange, N.J.

May 23, 1924.

Mr. W. M. Van der Weyde,
12 East 15th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Van der Weyde:

I have received your letter of May 23d in regard to the project for the erection of a Thomas Paine Memorial Building.

Let me say in reply that the Association may call on me at any time for $300.00.

Yours very truly,

Thos A Edison.

TAE:JRO

DS

THE THOMAS PAINE FOUNDATION

Organized 1935 • Incorporated under the laws of the State of New York 1950

Organized for the purpose of securing for the author-hero of the American Revolution the recognition he so richly deserves; to promulgate his social and political philosophy and help establish his humanitarian ideals.

★

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

257 WEST 38TH STREET • NEW YORK 18, N. Y., U. S. A.

LONGACRE 4-3773

THOMAS PAINE
1737-1809
Englishman by Birth
French Citizen by Decree
American by Adoption

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Richard Schaddelee
Prof. Harlow Shapley
Prof. Norman L. Torrey
Dr. Ira S. Wile

October 9, 1967

Dear Mr. Dibner:

Many thanks for your kind letter of October 4th, with a photostatic copy of the letter of Mr. Thomas A. Edison to Mr. W. M. Vander Weyde.

As you perhaps know, I have a number of letters which Mr. Edison wrote me directly, and which I prize very highly. It is needless to say that I would like to add yours to my collection, but I am very happy, indeed, that you acquired it.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Lewis

Joseph Lewis

The Thomas Paine Foundation has been responsible for the erection of a Thomas Paine statue in Paris, France; a statue of Thomas Paine in Morristown, New Jersey; the election of Thomas Paine to the Hall of Fame, New York; the marking of the site where Thomas Paine was buried in New Rochelle, New York, etc., etc.

GEMS FROM the WRITINGS of THOMAS PAINE

Independence is my happiness, and I view things as they are, without regard to place or person; my country is the world, and my religion is to do good.

These are the times that try men's souls. The Summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like Hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: 't is dearness only that gives everything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed, if so celestial an article as Freedom should not be highly rated.

Some people can be reasoned into sense, and others must be shocked into it.

I love the man that can smile in trouble, that can gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection. 'T is the business of little minds to shrink, but he whose heart is firm and whose conscience approves his conduct, will pursue his principles unto death.

As to religion, I hold it to be the indispensable duty of all governments to protect all conscientious professors thereof, and I know of no other business which government hath to do therewith.

It is an affront to truth to treat falsehood with complaisance.

The sublime and the ridiculous are often so nearly related that it is difficult to class them separately. One step below the sublime makes the ridiculous, and one step above the ridiculous makes the sublime again.

When it shall be said in any country in the world, "My poor are happy; neither ignorance nor distress is to be found among them; my jails are empty of prisoners, my streets of beggars; the aged are not in want, the taxes are not oppressive; the rational world is my friend, I am a friend of its happiness"—when these things can be said, then may that country boast of its constitution and its government.

Expressions of Praise

"Others can rule, many can fight, but only Thomas Paine can write for us the English tongue."
—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

"Your presence may remind Congress of your past services to this country, and if it is in my power to impress them, command my best exertions with freedom, as they will be rendered cheerfully, by one who entertains a lively sense of the importance of your works."
—GEORGE WASHINGTON

"History is to ascribe the revolution to Thomas Paine." —JOHN ADAMS

"That you may long live to continue your useful labors, and to reap the reward of the thankfulness of nations is my sincere prayer."
—THOMAS JEFFERSON

"The crime of ingratitude has not yet stained, and I hope never will stain, our national character. You are considered by them as not only having rendered important services in our own Revolution, but as being on a more extensive scale, the friend of human rights, and a distinguished and able advocate in favor of public liberty. To the welfare of Thomas Paine the Americans are not, nor can they be indifferent."
—JAMES MONROE

"I never tire of reading Paine."
—ABRAHAM LINCOLN

"No writing ever more instantly swung men to its humor."
—WOODROW WILSON

"Free America without her Thomas Paine is unthinkable."
—GENERAL LAFAYETTE

"Thomas Painel A statue of gold should be erected to you in every city of the world."
—NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

"With his name left out, the history of liberty can not be written."
—ROBERT G. INGERSOLL

"That Illustrious American."
—VICTOR HUGO

"We never had a sounder intelligence in this Republic. He was the equal of Washington in making American liberty possible. Where Washington performed, Paine devised and wrote. The deeds of the one in the field were matched by the **other with his pen. I consider Paine our greatest political thinker.**
"Paine practiced what he preached and some day will be recognized as one of the clearest of thinkers."
—THOMAS A. EDISON

When we consider, for the feelings of nature cannot be dismissed, the calamities of war and the miseries it inflicts upon the human species, the thousands and tens of thousands, of every age and sex who are rendered wretched by the event, surely there is something in the heart of man that calls upon him to think! Surely there is some tender chord, tuned by the hand of the Creator, that still struggles to emit in the hearing of the soul a note of sorrowing sympathy. Let it then be heard, and let man learn to feel that the true greatness of a nation is founded on principles of humanity, and not on conquest. War involves in its progress such a train of unforeseen and unsupposed circumstances, such a combination of foreign matters, that no human wisdom can calculate the end. It has but one thing certain, and that is to increase taxes. I defend the cause of the poor, of the manufacturer, of the tradesman, of the farmer, and of all those on whom the real burden of taxes fall—but above all, I defend the cause of women and children—of all humanity.

Poverty is a thing created by that which is called civilized life.

The most formidable weapon against errors of every kind is reason. I have never used any other and I trust I never shall.

Certain I am that when opinions are free, either in matters of government or religion, truth will finally and powerfully prevail.

I had rather record a thousand errors on the side of mercy than be obliged to tell one act of severe justice.

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it.

To argue with a man who has renounced the use and authority of reason, and whose philosophy consists in holding humanity in contempt, is like administering medicine to the dead.

When will men stop condemning in **others the things they do themselves?**

Luther

Anything Mr Evans

wants for his Board

Expenses please

Mackie

Cheque to

Aeroplane Models

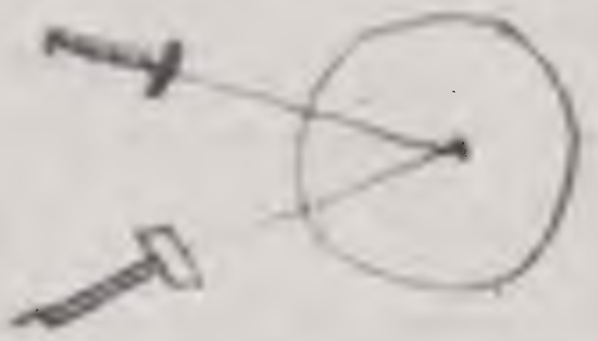
Edison

Inc

fsu

Reason for not balancing

1st Phones not set concentric with Center of Sound -



2= Sound source dont come from a point but has irregular shaped source, should come from a phone or other point source

3rd Inductance of the 2 balancing phones not the same

4 = Inertia + Elasticity of the two phone diaphragms not the same

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5 = Strength of (current generated)
by the tesla phones not the
same, Can this be corrected by
adding resistance ? ?

6 = distance of Earphones from
face of Magnets not the same
producing a change in current
tension as it by the magnet.

7 Air Chamber in outer chamber
not same thickness producing
more powerful Elasticity of
air in Chamber, perhaps the
whole face should be Exposed

ABU

8 = May be magnetic fields of the 2 phones while in same position are opposite or react opposite, the influence each other & thus rendering balancing unpossible - perhaps vice versa would work for it or phones could be set on circle of sound waves connectable distance apart.

9 = Resistance coils used for adjusting may have inductance for the

Q = In case you diaphragms are so different in Elevation use two mica diaphrams one outer of a diameter just sufficient to cover face of magnet.

841 EDISON. TLS, 4to. Orange, N.J., May 23, 1924. To W.M. Van der Weyde. Edison pledges $300 for the project to errect a Thomas Paine Memorial Building. Richards...'67 65.00

EDISON, Thomas A. Autograph Note Signed "E", written at head of a letter to Edison, from Edward Marshall, head of a syndicating firm. 1 page, 4to. March 13, 1915 Argosy-61 $10.00

Edition has penciled at top — "Marshall. Good, as soon as I can get things started here I will give you a lot of dope."

✓

1876. To Mrs. Bray, referring to a visit to Europe "The last two months of our absence were spent entirely in the North-East of Switzerland & in the Black Forest, out of the English tracks. We [illegible] but one acquaintance, she was a Berlin publisher." With much more description about

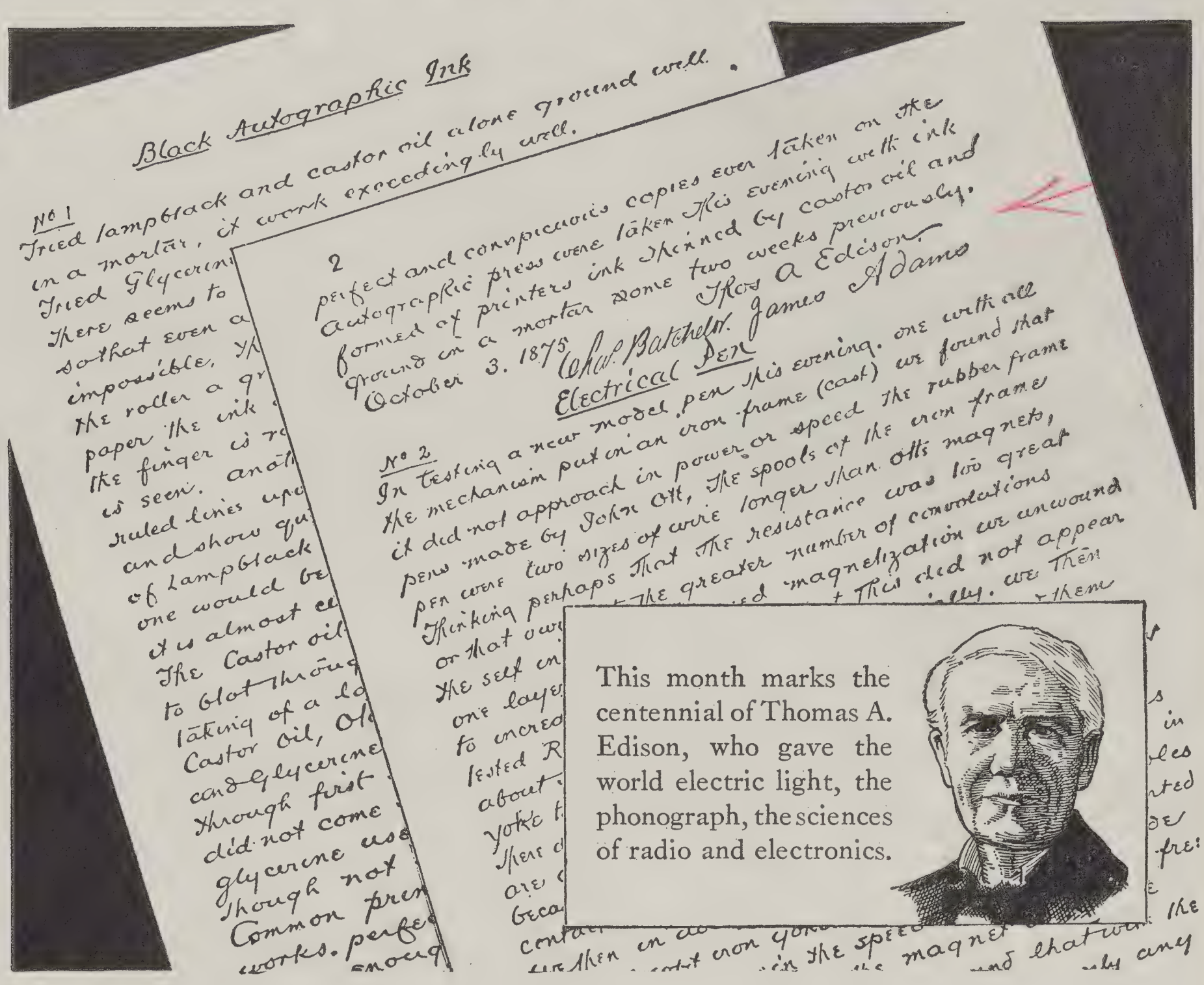
heavily gilt, g.e. London, [illegible]. First Edition. Scarce. $15.00

A pioneer excursion into the territory of electrical physiology, by a noted surgeon and electrical experimenter. Wheeler Gift Cat., 1165.

754

ELECTRO-THERAPY. Fieber, Friedrich, Compendium der Elektrotherapie. 8 Illus. Leather-backed bds. Wien, 1869

From the notebooks of Thomas A. Edison



Black Autographic Ink

Tried lampblack and castor oil alone ground well.

No 1
Tried lampblack and castor oil alone ground well in a mortar, it work exceedingly well.
Tried Glycerin
There seems to
so that even a
impossible. Y
the roller a gr
paper the ink
the finger is r
is seen. anal
ruled lines up
and show qu
of Lampblack
one would be
it is almost e
The Castor oil
to blot throu
taking of a l
Castor Oil, Ol
and Glycerine
Through first
did not come
glycerine use
Though not
Common pre
works. perfe
enoug

2
perfect and conspicuous copies ever taken on the Autographic press were taken this evening with ink formed of printers ink thinned by castor oil and ground in a mortar some two weeks previously.
October 3. 1875 Chas Batchelor. Thos A Edison
James Adams

Electrical Pen

No 2
In testing a new model pen this evening. one with all the mechanism put in an iron-frame (cast) we found that it did not approach in power or speed the rubber frame pens made by John Ott, The spools of the iron frame pen were two sizes of wire longer than Otts magnets, Thinking perhaps that The resistance was too great or that the greater number of convolutions
The self in
one layer
to increa
tested R
about
yoke t
There d
are
Beca
contac
then in a
in the spee
magnet
and that was
why any

This month marks the centennial of Thomas A. Edison, who gave the world electric light, the phonograph, the sciences of radio and electronics.

Here are two pages from the notebooks of Thomas A. Edison, written in his own handwriting, witnessed and dated October 3 and 6, 1875.

They report his successful experiments in obtaining "the most perfect and conspicuous copies" with his autographic duplicating ink and the electric pen—Edison's first contributions to the field of stencil duplication.

A few years later, another pioneer in stencil duplicating, A. B. Dick, developed a duplicator and devised supplies to go with it. In the course of his experiments, he heard of Edison's electric pen and sought the help of the great inventor.

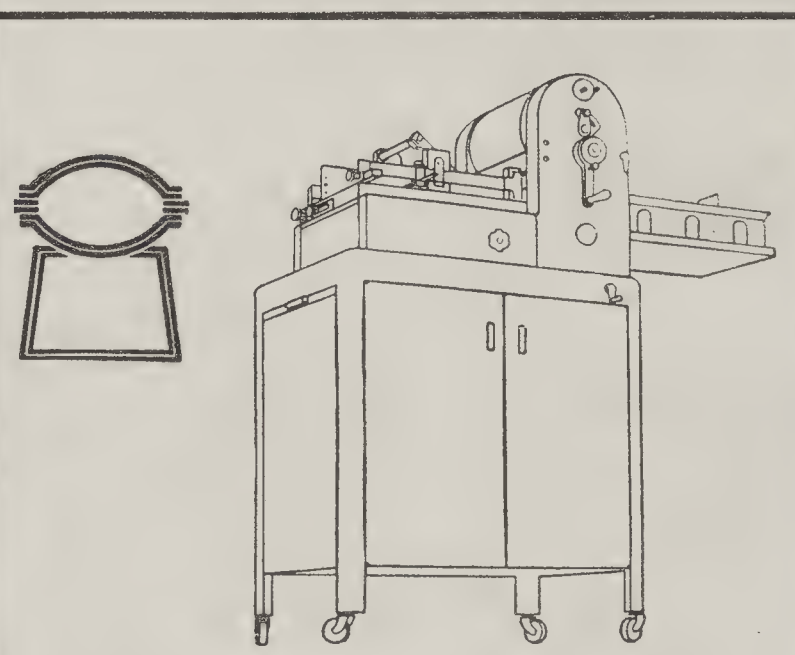
To encourage the young Mr. Dick, Edison furnished him with suggestions and devices. In fact, Edison became so interested in Mr. Dick's concept of duplication of materials typewritten or drawn that he assisted in the development of the duplicating process.

Today's modern Mimeograph brand duplicator does things undreamed of seventy-odd years ago. In crisp black-and-white or in color, by tens or thousands of copies, in a variety of forms, shapes and sizes, it transmits ideas to many people, quickly and at low cost.

It is a product of American initiative, and, in this Edison Centennial Year, it is a tribute to American enterprise.

A. B. Dick Company, Chicago; The Mimeograph Company, Ltd., Toronto.

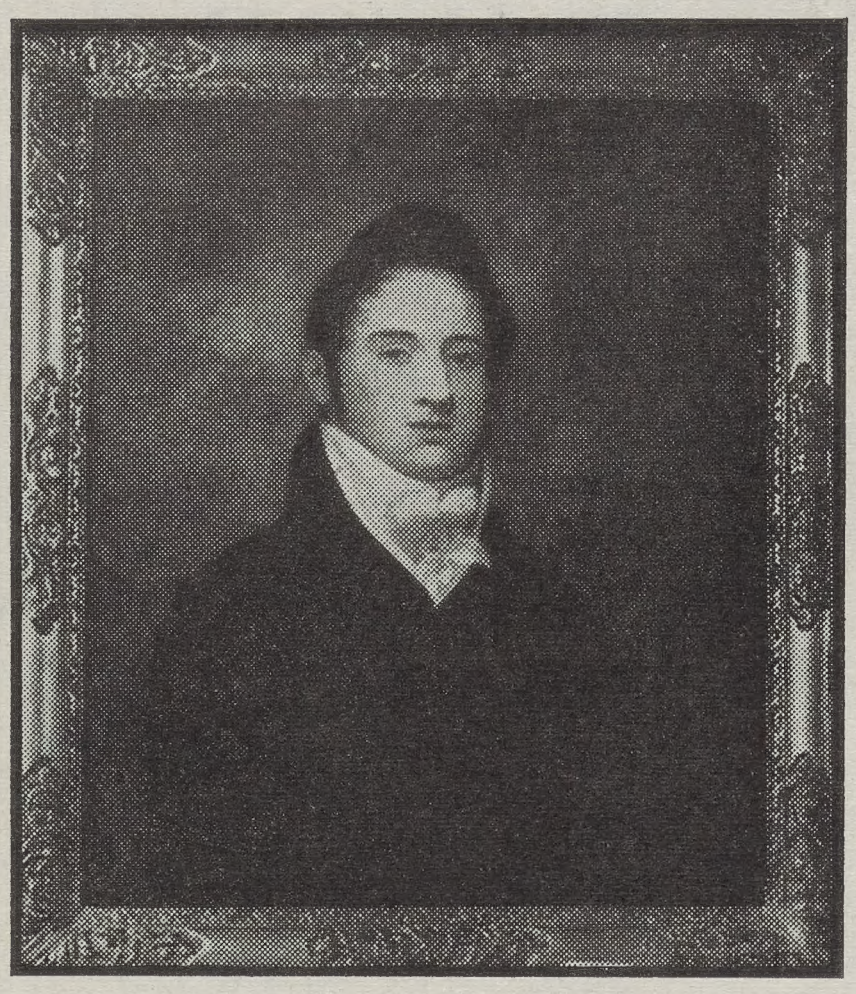
COPYRIGHT 1947, A. B. DICK COMPANY



The Mimeograph brand duplicator is made by A. B. Dick Company, Chicago

***MIMEOGRAPH** is the trade-mark of A. B. Dick Company, Chicago, registered in the U. S. Patent Office.*

DSI



JAMES I. ROOSEVELT
Cousin Franklin forced a change.

nated by the Oyster Bay, or non-New Dealing, Roosevelts.*

Roosevelt & Son held a subdued celebration, in keeping with its high-stooled, high-collared conservatism. Top officers greeted clients and friends at a reception in the New York Yacht Club. Guests received copies of a newly published history of the firm entitled *The Strenuous Life*, the phrase made famous by the most famed of the Oyster Bay Roosevelts.

"Cousin Thee" (as Teddy Roosevelt was known in the family) had relatively little to do with the family business. But Roosevelt & Son had plenty of the strenuous life. Founded by James I. Roosevelt (who later took his son Cornelius into partnership), the firm started out as a hardware shop in Maiden Lane, barely opened its doors before Manhattan was swept by yellow fever. The shop not only survived the epidemic but within a few years was so prosperous that it began discounting notes for other merchants. This led to other financial activities, and the hardware business was finally abandoned.

Into the Big Time. By 1824, the up-&-coming Roosevelts were able to help found the Chemical Bank (now the giant Chemical Bank & Trust Co., with which Roosevelts are still associated). As a big-time house, Roosevelt & Son helped finance Cyrus Field's first transatlantic cable, floated James J. Hill's first railroad bonds, did battle with Robber Baron Jay Gould.

But the heyday of the firm passed with the 19th Century. Gradually it curtailed its underwriting ventures, concentrated more & more on counseling the owners of large stock-&-bond portfolios. Finally the signature of Franklin D. Roosevelt* on the Banking Act of 1933 forced Roosevelt & Son to give up underwriting and securities-dealing altogether.

Now, with the solidest of reputations for giving unbiased advice, the firm still thrives, acting as fiduciary for funds totaling over $100 million. Its present head—and fifth in direct line of descent from the founder—is staid, bespectacled George Emlen Roosevelt, 59, a noted amateur chess player and yachtsman. He will be succeeded ultimately by one of his two sons or five nephews, in the tradition of the family motto: *Qui Plantavit Curabit* (he who planted will tend).

* Also known as the out-of-season Rs.

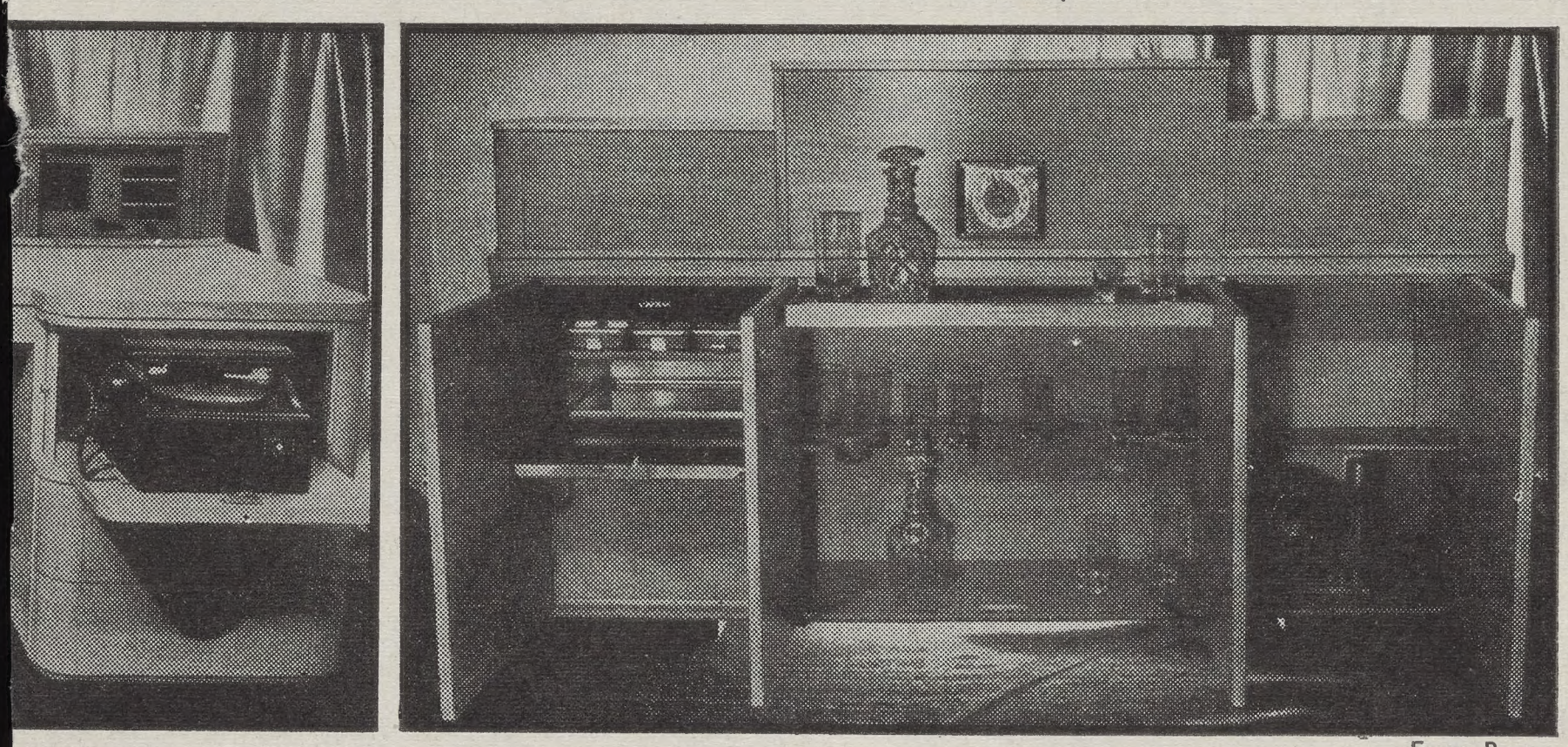
* The Oyster Bay and Hyde Park Roosevelts, all distant cousins to one another, had for a common ancestor Claes Martenszen van Roosevelt, a Dutch trader who came to New Amsterdam around 1648.

FASHIONS

By the Sweat of Thy Brow

It was a far cry from grandfather's roll top. But it was a desk, all right. There was even space where a man could do some work. But Gunn Furniture Co.'s desk-of-tomorrow (improved version) had other virtues; and visitors to the eighth annual office-equipment display in Chicago last week rightfully gaped at them.

On the "business" side, where the executive sits, there are (among other wonders): a radio, fluorescent lights, a Teletalk intercommunication unit (known commonly as a "squawk-box"), an electronic dictating machine, an electric razor with door mirror, an electric cigaret lighter, a telephone mounted on a pull-out



Fran Byrne

ECUTIVE'S DESK: BUSINESS SIDE & PLAY SIDE
The pen always finds its way home.

THOMAS A. EDISON,
NO. 65 FIFTH AVENUE.

NEW YORK, Dec 5 1883

Friend Remenyi.

Impossible to have the pleasure, must work, work, things are booming

Yours

Edison

Have closed my belly to all the allurements of Gastronomy

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1847 – 1931

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